

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 261

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Central High School of Davidson County on the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly recognize those venerable educational institutions that are celebrating momentous occasions in their long and storied histories; and

WHEREAS, one such institution is Central High School of Davidson County, whose alumni are marking its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. During its existence, the school established a legacy of unmatched educational excellence and fostered the growth and broadening of some of Tennessee's finest minds; and

WHEREAS, Central High School's illustrious history began in 1917, when the school was established as the first public high school in the Davidson County school system; and

WHEREAS, one of the earliest student government associations in the South was founded at Central High School, thereby introducing the student body to the voting process and the intricacies of campaigning for elected office; and

WHEREAS, the school was located on Rains Avenue in south Nashville on a hill overlooking the State Fairgrounds between Wedgewood Avenue and Southgate Avenue; and

WHEREAS, an alumni association was established in 1958, with the purpose of promoting fellowship among Central High School graduates and providing college scholarships to graduating seniors; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the association has awarded more than \$765,000 in scholarships to both Central High School alumni and their descendants; and

WHEREAS, among the many notable Central High School graduates are Ben West, the last mayor of the old Nashville City Government; Beverly Briley, the first mayor of Metro Government; Jack Norman, Sr.; and Robert Feeney; as well as a number of city council members, police officers, firefighters, principals, teachers, and business leaders; and

WHEREAS, Central High School graduated its final class in 1971; after which, the building was demolished and the site later redeveloped as the production studios of public television station WNPT; and

WHEREAS, while the physical building is no longer standing, the spirit of Central High School lives on in its outstanding alumni and former administration, faculty, and staff, all of whom promoted a century-long legacy of educational, athletic, and personal excellence that was second to none, and it is fitting that this body recognize this august institution on this occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize and honor Central High School of Davidson County on the occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and extend to all its alumni and former staff our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.